



PATENT
Docket No.: P6D2-US

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL" 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on December 22, 2004 in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Patti Crowder

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Benjamin N. Eldridge et al.

Application No.: 09/846,490

Filing Date: April 30, 2001

For: PROBE CARD ASSEMBLY AND KIT,
AND METHODS OF MAKING SAME

Examiner: C. Arbes

Group Art Unit: 3729

REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF IDS(S)

Mail Stop: RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Arbes:

The Examiner initialed listings of prior art are outstanding in four Information Disclosure Statements filed on March 8, 2002, January 10, 2003, May 8, 2003, and May 25, 2004 for the above-referenced application. Applicants request that the art cited in those four Information Disclosure Statements be considered and the listings of prior art be initialed and returned. For your convenience enclosed, as Attachments 1-4, are copies of the Information Disclosure Statements, excluding copies of the cited art references, as well as, copies of the stamped returned postcard. We will gladly supply an additional copy of the cited references upon request.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this transmittal and associated documents, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P6D2-US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 22, 2004

By:



Stuart L. Merkadeau
Registration No. 33,262

FormFactor, Inc.
Legal Department
7005 Southfront Road
Livermore, CA 94551
Telephone: (925) 290-4028
Fax: (925) 290-4119

ATTACHMENT 1

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/846,490

Attorney Docket No.: P6D2-US

Inventor: Benjamin N. Eldridge et al.

Date Due:

Title: PROBE CARD ASSEMBLY AND KIT, AND METHODS OF USING SAME

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the following:

- ☐ Patent Application (No. pgs ____)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO 1449
- ☐ Drawings ____ Sheets
- ☐ Declaration and Power of Attorney (Copy from prior Appl.)
- ☐ Assignment w/Cover Sheet
- ☐ Check No., in the amount of \$
- ☐ Revocation/Power of Attorney & Change of Corres. Address
- ☐ Certification under 3.73
- ☐ Transmittal

- ☐ Petition for Extension of Time
- ☐ Resp. to Notice to File Missing Parts
- ☐ Response/Amendment
- ☐ Issue Fee Transmittal
- ☐ Submission of Formal Drawings
- ☐ Notice of Appeal
- ☐ Appeal Brief
- ☐ Application Data Sheet
- ☐ Certificate of Mailing
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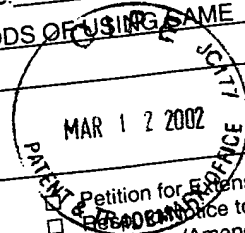
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METHODS OF USING SAME

Examiner: C. Arbes
Group Art Unit: 3729

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication, U.S. and foreign patent document, and pending U.S. application (including drawings and claims), is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. The Examiner is requested to initial and return the attached Form PTO/SB/08A in accordance with MPEP §609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

☐ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d))
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage
-- OR --
- ☐ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits
-- OR --
- ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.

☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application; (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or (4) the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:

☐ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **or**

☒ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:

A. a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **and**

B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

- ☒ *Fee Authorization.* Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge the above fee of \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P6D2-US). Although Applicants believe that no additional fee is due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayment associated, with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P6D2-US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 8, 2002

By: 

N. Kenneth Burraston
Reg. No. 39,923

FormFactor, Inc.
Legal Department
2140 Research Drive
Livermore, CA 94550
Telephone: (925) 294-4300

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete If Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/846,490
				Filing Date	April 30, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Eldridge et al.
				Group Art Unit	3729
Examiner Name	C. Arbes				
Sheet	1	of	6	Attorney Docket No.	P6D2-US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions
		Number	Kind Code ²			
	1	4032058		Riseman	6/28/1977	
	2	5103557		Leedy	4/14/1992	
	3	5187020		Kwon et al.	2/16/1993	
	4	5191708		Kasukabe et al.	3/9/1993	
	5	5354712		Ho et al	10/11/1994	
	6	5391521		Kim	2/21/1995	
	7	5513430		Yanof et al.	5/7/1996	
	8	6002266		Briggs et al.	12/14/1999	
	9	5917707		Khandros et al.	6/29/1999	
	10	6110823		Eldridge et al.	8/29/2000	
	11	6029344		Khandros et al.	2/29/2000	
	12	5772451		Dozier II, et al.	6/30/1998	
	13	2967216		Zablocki et al.	Jan-61	
	14	3663920		Lapham	May-72	
	15	3676776		Bauer et al.	Jul-72	
	16	3714384		Burkhardt	Jan-73	
	17	3771110		Reed	Nov-73	
	18	3826984		Epple	Jul-74	
	19	3891924		Ardezzone et al.	Jun-75	
	20	3994552		Selvin	Nov-76	
	21	4307928		Petlock Jr.	Dec-81	
	22	4338621		Braun	Jul-82	
	23	4358175		Reid	Nov-82	
	24	4466184		Cuneo et al.	Aug-84	
	25	4553192		Babuka	Nov-82	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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	26	4567433		Ohkubo et al.	Jan-86	
	27	4593958		Baba	Jun-86	
	28	4615573		White et al.	Oct-86	
	29	4616404		Wang et al.	Oct-86	
	30	4707655		Kruger	Nov-87	
	31	4773877		Kruger et al.	Sep-88	
	32	4831614		Duerig et al.	May-89	
	33	4866504		Landis	Sep-89	
	34	4893172		Matsumoto et al.	Jan-90	
	35	4932883		Hsia et al.	Jun-90	
	36	4965865		Trenary	Oct-90	
	37	4993957		Shino	Feb-91	
	38	5090118		Kwon et al.	Feb-92	
	39	5152695		Grabbe et al.	Oct-92	
	40	5191708		Kasukabe et al.	Mar-93	
	41	5210939		Mallik et al.	May-93	
	42	5221895		Janko et al.	Jun-93	
	43	5308797		Kee	May-94	
	44	5391521		Kim	Feb-95	
	45	5469733		Yasue et al.	Nov-95	
	46	5475318		Marcus et al.	Dec-95	
	47	5632631		Fjelstad et al.	May-97	
	48	5811982		Beaman et al.	Sep-98	
	49	3832632		Ardezzone	8/27/1974	
	50	3654585		Wickersham	4/4/1972	

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	51	3842189		Southgate	10/15/1974	
	52	4085502		Ostman et al.	4/25/1978	
	53	4548451		Benarr et al.	10/22/1985	
	54	4707657		Boegh-Petersen	11/17/1987	
	55	4983907		Crowley	1/8/1991	
	56	5017738		Tsuji et al.	5/21/1993	
	57	5067007		Kanji et al.	Nov-91	
	58	5139427		Boyd et al.	8/18/1992	
	59	5148103 ✓		Pasiecznik, Jr.	9/15/1992	
	60	5187020		Kwon et al.	2/16/1993	
	61	5228861		Grabbe	7/20/1993	
	62	5317479		Pai et al.	5/31/1994	
	63	5437556		Bargain et al.	8/1/1995	
	64	5471151		DiFrancesco	11/28/1995	
	65	5476211		Khandros	12/19/1995	
	66	5806181		Khandros et al.	Sep-98	
	67	5828226		Higgins et al.	Oct-98	
	68	5852871		Khandros	Dec-98	
	69	5900738		Kandros et al.	May-99	
	70	6050829		Eldridge et al.	Apr-00	
	71	5109596		Driller et al.	May-92	
	72	5399982		Driller et al.	Mar-95	
	73	4955523		Calomagno et al.	Sep-90	
	74	5189507		Carlomagno et al.	Feb-93	

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	75	5455390		DiStefano et al.	Oct-95	
	76	5130779		Agarwala et al.	Jul-92	
	77	5071359		Arnio et al.	Dec-91	
	78	5072520		Nelson	Dec-91	
	79	5237743		Busacco et al.	Aug-93	
	80	5245751		Locke et al.	Sep-93	
	81	5379515		Kondo et al.	Jan-95	
	82	4947481		Ikedo et al.	Aug-90	

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		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
	83	GB	1446196		Carrier	8/18/2076		
	84	EP	295914		Karnazos	12/21/1988		
	85	EP	396248		Keiichi et al.	11/7/1990		
	86	EP	413042		Greschner et al.	2/10/1991		
	87	JP	4214650		Shoichi	8/5/1992		
	88	JP	6018555		Meisei Denshi Kogyo	1/25/1994		
	89	JP	6265575		Masamitsu et al.	9/22/1994		
	90	JP	6180329			Jun-94		
	91	WO	9112706		Leedy	Aug-91		
	92	WO	9409513		Leedy	Apr-94		
	93	DE	4237591			5/11/1994		
	94	EP	369112			5/23/1990		
	95	EP	402756			12/19/1990		

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	97	JP	451535			Dec-91		
	98	JP	529406			Feb-93		
	99	JP	588960			Feb-83		
	100	JP	650990			Feb-94		
	101	JP	772172			Mar-95		
	102	JP	1152271			Oct-89		
	103	JP	1255240			10/12/1989		
	104	JP	2226996			Jan-00		
	105	JP	3292406			Nov-88		
	106	JP	4207047			Sep-90		
	107	JP	4240570			Aug-92		
	108	JP	4294559			Oct-92		
	109	JP	4357848			12/10/1992		
	110	JP	5218156			Aug-93		
	111	JP	6119770			Feb-86		
	112	JP	6244285			Mar-87		
	113	JP	6249924			Sep-94		
	114	JP	6273445			Sep-94		

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	115	JP	6313775			Nov-94		
	116	JP	6363777			Apr-88		
	117	JP	58178293			Nov-83		
	118	JP	59149070			Oct-84		
	119	JP	62160373			Oct-87		
	120	JP	63243768			Oct-88		
	121	JP	63279477			Mar-91		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	122	"Robust Method Using Simple Unit Processes For Thin Film Cu-Polyimide Packaging Structures," IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, vol. 34, no. 10A (March 1992)	

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Express Mail label No.:

Date Mailed: January 10, 2003

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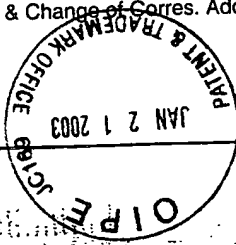
Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the following:

- ☐ Patent Application (No. pgs ____)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO 1449
- ☐ Drawings ____ Sheets
- ☐ Declaration and Power of Attorney (Copy from prior Appl.)
- ☐ Assignment w/Cover Sheet
- ☐ Check No. ____ in the amount of \$
- ☐ Revocation/Power of Attorney & Change of Corres. Address
- ☐ Certification under 3.73
- ☐ _____ Transmittal

- ☐ Petition for Extension of Time
- ☐ Resp. to Notice to File Missing Parts
- ☐ Response/Amendment
- ☐ Issue Fee Transmittal
- ☐ Submission of Formal Drawings
- ☐ Notice of Appeal
- ☐ Appeal Brief
- ☐ Application Data Sheet
- ☐ Certificate of Mailing
- ☐ Express Mail Certificate

Express Mail label No.:

Date Mailed: January 10, 2003



IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/846,490 Attorney Docket No.: P6D2-US
Inventor: Benjamin N. Eldridge et al. Date Due: _____
Title: PROBE CARD ASSEMBLY AND KIT, AND METHODS OF USING SAME

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the following:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patent Application (No. pgs ____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO 1449 | <input type="checkbox"/> Resp. to Notice to File Missing Parts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings ____ Sheets | <input type="checkbox"/> Response/Amendment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration and Power of Attorney (Copy from prior Appl.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Issue Fee Transmittal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment w/Cover Sheet | <input type="checkbox"/> Submission of Formal Drawings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Appeal |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Certification under 3.73 | <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Transmittal | <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Mailing |
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Express Mail label No.: _____ Date Mailed: January 10, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of: Eldridge et al. Application No.: 09/846,490 Filing Date: April 30, 2001 For: Probe Card Assembly And Kit, And Methods Of Using Same	Examiner: C. Arbes Group Art Unit: 3729
--	--

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s). The Examiner is requested to initial and return the attached Form PTO/SB/08A in accordance with MPEP §609. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.


☐ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d))
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage
-- OR --
- ☐ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits
-- OR --
- ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.

- ☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application; (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or (4) the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:
- ☐ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; or
- ☒ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:
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- ☒ *Fee Authorization.* Applicants hereby authorize the Director to charge the above fee of \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P6D2-US). Although Applicants believe that no additional fee is due in connection with the filing of this IDS, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayment associated, with this IDS to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P6D2-US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 10, 2003

By: 
N. Kenneth Burraston
Reg. No. 39,923

FormFactor, Inc.
Legal Department
2140 Research Drive
Livermore, CA 94550
Telephone: (925) 456-3915

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete If Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/846,490
				Filing Date	April 30, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Eldridge et al.
				Group Art Unit	3729
				Examiner Name	C. Arbes
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	P6D2-US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions
		Number	Kind Code ²			
	1	3810301		Cook	5/15/1974	
	2	3835530		Kilby	9/17/1974	
	3	4281449		Ports et al.	8/4/1981	
	4	4623839		Garretson et al.	11/18/1986	
	5	4795977		Frost et al.	1/3/1989	
	6	4924589		Leedy	5/15/1990	
	7	5055780		Takagi et al.	10/8/1991	
	8	5177438		Littlebury et al.	1/5/1993	
	9	5412329		Iino et al.	5/2/1995	
	10	5465611		Ruf et al.	11/14/1995	
	11	5476818		Yanof et al.	12/19/1995	
	12	5666190		Quate et al.	9/9/1997	
	13	5720098		Kister	2/24/1998	
	14	5811982		Beaman et al.	9/22/1998	
	15	6032356		Eldridge et al. <i>P707</i>	3/7/2000	
	16	6215320	B1	Parrish	4/10/2001	
	17	6219908	B1	Farnworth et al.	4/24/2001	
	18	6330164	B1	Khandros et al.	12/11/2001	
	19	6334247	B1	Beaman et al.	1/1/2002	
	20	6392426	B2	Farnworth et al.	5/21/2002	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete If Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/846,490
				Filing Date	April 30, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Eldridge et al.
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Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	P6D2-US

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
	21	EP	544305	A2	Ouchi et al.	6/2/1993		
	22	JP	04-93157		Tazawa	8/13/1992		x
	23	JP	05-018741		Kawase et al.	1/26/1993		x
	24	JP	05-198716		Osawa	8/6/1993		x
	25	JP	06-267408		Todokoro et al.	9/22/1994		x
	26	JP	07-021968		Watanabe et al.	1/24/1995		x
	27	JP	07-333232		Tagi et al.	12/22/1995		x
	28	JP	59-088860		Hatada et al.	5/22/1984		x
	29	JP	62-160373		Mizumo et al.	10/12/1987		x

OTHER PRIOR ART - NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	31	KONG et al., "Integrated electrostatically resonant scan tip for an atomic force microscope," J. Vac. Sci. Technol. B 11(3) (May/June 1993), pp. 634-645	
	32	LEUNG et al., "Active Substrate Membrane Probe Card," Center for Integrated Systems, Stanford University, October 12, 1995, pp. 29.2.1-29.2.4	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

ATTACHMENT 3

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/846,490

Attorney Docket No.: P6D2-US

Inventor: Benjamin N. Eldridge et al.

Date Due: May 12, 2003

Title: A Method Of Making A Contact Structure With A Distinctly Formed Tip Structure

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the following:

Cited References Attached

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patent Application (No. pgs ____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO 1449 | <input type="checkbox"/> Resp. to Notice to File Missing Parts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings ____ Sheets | <input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Amendment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration and Power of Attorney (Copy from prior Appl.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Issue Fee Transmittal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment w/Cover Sheet | <input type="checkbox"/> Submission of Formal Drawings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check No., in the amount of \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Appeal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revocation/Power of Attorney & Change of Corres. Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Brief |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certification under 3.73 | <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request For Continued Examination Transmittal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Mailing |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Express Mail Certificate |

Express Mail label No.:

Date Mailed: May 8, 2003

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/846,490

Attorney Docket No.: P6D2-US

Inventor: Benjamin N. Eldridge et al.

Date Due: May 12, 2003

Title: A Method Of Making A Contact Structure With A Distinctly Formed Tip Structure

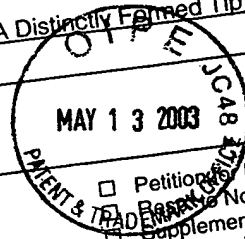
Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the following:

Cited References Attached

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patent Application (No. pgs ____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO 1449 | <input type="checkbox"/> Resp. to Notice to File Missing Parts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings ____ Sheets | <input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Amendment |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request For Continued Examination Transmittal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Mailing |
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Date Mailed: May 8, 2003



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL" 37 C.F.R. §1.8

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Patti Crowder

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of: Eldridge et al.

Application No.: 09/846,490

Filing Date: April 30, 2001

For: Probe Card Assembly And Kit, And
Methods Of Using Same

Examiner: C. Arbes

Group Art Unit: 3729

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s). The Examiner is requested to initial and return the attached Form PTO/SB/08A in accordance with MPEP §609. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

☒ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d))
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage
-- OR --
- ☐ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits
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- ☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.
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- ☒ *Fee Authorization.* Although Applicants believe that no fee is due in connection with the filing of this IDS, the Director is authorized to charge any fees due, or credit any overpayment associated, with this IDS to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (order no. P6D2-US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 8, 2003

By: 

N. Kenneth Burraston
Reg. No. 39,923

FormFactor, Inc.
Legal Department
2140 Research Drive
Livermore, CA 94550
Telephone: (925) 456-3915

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete If Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/846,490
				Filing Date	April 30, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Eldridge et al.
				Group Art Unit	3729
				Examiner Name	C. Arbes
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	P6D2-US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions
		Number	Kind Code ²			
	1	4537808		Yamamoto et al.	8/27/1985	
	2	4969826		Grabbe	11/13/1990	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
	3	WO	92/10010		Billette	6/11/1992		x

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

ATTACHMENT 4

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/846,490 Attorney Docket No.: P6D2-US
Inventor: Eldridge et al. Date Due: _____
Title: PROBE CARD ASSEMBLY AND KIT, AND METHODS OF USING SAME

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the following:

COPIES OF CITED REFERENCES

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patent Application (No. pgs ____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO 1449 | <input type="checkbox"/> Resp. to Notice to File Missing Parts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings ____ Sheets | <input type="checkbox"/> Response/Amendment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration and Power of Attorney | <input type="checkbox"/> Issue Fee Transmittal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment w/Cover Sheet | <input type="checkbox"/> Submission of Formal Drawings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check No. in the amount of \$ | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Appeal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revocation/Power of Attorney & Change of Corres. Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Brief |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certification under 3.73 | <input type="checkbox"/> Express Mail Certificate |

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/846,490 Attorney Docket No.: P6D2-US
Inventor: Eldridge et al. Date Due: _____
Title: PROBE CARD ASSEMBLY AND KIT, AND METHODS OF USING SAME

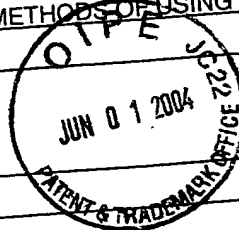
Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the following:

COPIES OF CITED REFERENCES

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patent Application (No. pgs ____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO 1449 | <input type="checkbox"/> Resp. to Notice to File Missing Parts |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Transmittal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Mailing |

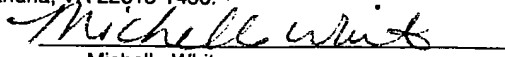
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Date Mailed: May 25, 2004



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL" 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on May 25, 2004 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Michelle White

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of: Eldridge et al.

Application No.: 09/846,490

Filing Date: April 30, 2001

For: PROBE CARD ASSEMBLY AND KIT, AND
METHODS OF USING SAME

Examiner: C. Arbes

Group Art Unit: 3729

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication, U.S. and foreign patent document, and pending U.S. application (including drawings and claims), is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. The Examiner is requested to initial and return the attached Form PTO/SB/08A in accordance with MPEP §609.

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 21, 2004

By: 

Stuart L. Merkadeau
Registration No. 33,262

FormFactor, Inc.
Legal Department
2140 Research Drive
Livermore, CA 94550
Telephone: (925) 294-4300

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete If Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/846,490
				Filing Date	4/30/01
				First Named Inventor	Eldridge et al.
				Group Art Unit	3729
				Examiner Name	C. Arbes
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	P6D2-US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions
		Number	Kind Code ²			
	1	3,963,986		Morton et al.	6/15/76	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
	2	KR	10-0013608		Tokyo Electron Co.	9/6/90		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	3	Korea Institute of Machinery & Materials "Development of Manufacturing Process for Membrane Probe Card", Ministry of Science and Technology, pp.1-62, (1992).	

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¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/846,490 Attorney Docket No.: P6D2-US
Inventor: Eldridge et al. Date Due: _____
Title: PROBE CARD ASSEMBLY AND KIT, AND METHODS OF USING SAME

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the following:

COPIES OF CITED REFERENCES

- ☐ Patent Application (No. pgs ____)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO 1449
- ☐ Drawings ____ Sheets
- ☐ Declaration and Power of Attorney
- ☐ Assignment w/Cover Sheet
- ☐ Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____
- ☐ Revocation/Power of Attorney & Change of Corres. Address
- ☐ Certification under 3.73
- ☐ _____ Transmittal

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